

## Part 1 – Agency Profile

### Agency Overview

The Commission was founded in 1965 as the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women under executive order by Governor Robert E. Smylie, and was patterned after the federal Commission on the Status of Women. The Commission was created as a statutory commission under Idaho Code in 1970 and given the name Commission on Women's Programs. During the 1997 legislative session, the name of the Commission was changed to the Idaho Women's Commission. The agency is a part of the Executive Office of the Governor.

Since 1965, the Commission has been working for women in all walks of life. Our mission as stated in Idaho Code is to encourage and stimulate women to increase their participation and contributions to the social, political and economic progress of the local communities, the state and the nation. The IWC engages in activities that encourage and stimulate the development of strong families. We strengthen families by encouraging women to know the laws of Idaho, be involved in their community and become self reliant.

Volunteer Commissioners, appointed by the Governor for three-year terms, work with other state agencies and women and children's organizations on specific projects or programs. These vary according to statewide and community needs. We operate under the philosophy that volunteer service is essential to the success of a society. Commission members are aware and respectful of the special problems and issues facing women and their families.

For over 40 years, the Commission has researched and worked for legislation and social change ranging from equal pay and employment opportunities to child custody and support. Some of its current projects include monitoring proposed legislation affecting women and families; providing information and referrals for women across the state on legal, political and economic issues; offering educational classes on how Idaho laws impact areas of interest to women; providing information at women's conferences around the state; networking with state and community organizations to avoid duplication; and coordinating a business mentoring program for women in business.

Currently, the Commission is comprised of 12 nonpartisan members from various regions of the State, and a director. Current members are:

Kitty Kunz, Director  
Boise

Marilyn Hempleman  
Twin Falls

Fran Dingel, Chair  
Boise

Kathy Martin  
Lewiston

Linda Hurlbutt, Vice Chair  
Boise

Dawn Shepherd  
Riggins

Farhana Hibbert, Secretary  
Pocatello

Amy Taylor  
Idaho Falls

Emily Anderson  
Boise

Debra Wilson  
Kimberly

Rayelle Anderson  
Coeur d'Alene

Jeanne Wride  
Aberdeen

Sonna Lynn Fernandez  
Nampa

The Commission meets semi annually. Our Director travels to the different regions of Idaho to help regional commissioners meet the needs of their regions. The current office for the Idaho Women's Commission is in the home of the Director. The Director position is currently a .36 FTE. There has been an increasing awareness of our agency and this has created an increase in the services we are asked to provide. We are currently looking into sharing office space with another agency. This would allow us to offer better services to Idaho families seeking advice and help.

Our future goals include increasing our donations and grant money to help in disseminating information to women and families. We also will hold more regional conferences by partnering with other organizations to further the development of women and families.

### Core Functions/Idaho Code

*Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 60*

*The purposes of the commission shall be: (1) to encourage and stimulate women to increase their participation in and contributions, whether paid or unpaid, to the social, political and economic progress of the local communities, the state and the nation, acting independently or in cooperation with similar commissions and committees established by the president of the United States and the governors of other states; and (2) to engage in activities that encourage and stimulate the development of strong families.*

### Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
General Fund	\$38,200	35,700	41,600	26,700
Economic Recovery Fund	\$0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Revenue	<u>1,300</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	300
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,500</b>	<b>35,700</b>	<b>41,600</b>	<b>27,000</b>
Expenditure	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personnel Costs	\$29,100	\$10,100	6,800	16,500
Operating Expenditures	\$10,700	\$9,000	12,300	12,800
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	0	0
Trustee/Benefit Payments	<u>\$0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>22,500</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$39,800</b>	<b>\$36,100</b>	<b>41,600</b>	<b>29,300</b>

**Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided**

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Distribution of "Idaho laws, A Guide for Women and Families"	6,000 books were printed and distributed	0	15,000 English books were printed and over 10,000 distributed 7,000 Spanish books were printed and over 3,500 distributed	We printed an additional 2,000 books in English. 7,000 English books were distributed 2,000 Spanish books were distributed
Telephone, email, and website contact	12,000 to website/ contacts 8,265	13,000 to website/3,430 Phone/ 4,875 email contacts	43,000 user sessions on website/3,640 Phone/ 2,040 email or correspondence contacts 2,135	43,500 user sessions on website/2,015 Phone and 3,700 email or correspondence contacts 2,415
Volunteer hours by commissioners in their communities	1,898	1,748		
Private donations received	\$1,300	0	\$75.00	\$315.00
Regional Seminars partnered with other organizations	2	2	3	5
Networking with other organizations	13	8	13	35
Grants applied for			2 with none awarded	5 with 2 awarded to be used in FY2009
Speaking engagements by director and commissioners				3

**Performance Highlights**

The Director and Commission members meet with individuals and community-based groups around the State that provide services for women and their families. The Commission shares information and plans collaborative programs, such as educational workshops on finances, small business, personal development, health, and legal issues. The Director takes statewide information and referral calls on the Commission's toll-free telephone line and email on issues ranging from starting a new business to divorce and domestic violence. The toll-free number is listed in various telephone directories in Idaho and is listed on a web site home page for the Commission.

The booklet produced by the IWC, "Idaho Laws, a Guide for Women and Families" provides invaluable information to all Idahoans on a large range of legal issues that impact women and their families. This booklet is published about every 2 years with the help of grants secured by the IWC. We updated and revised our book in 2006. We first published 15,000 copies in English. We then had our book translated into Spanish and printed 7,000 copies in Spanish. Because of the high demand for our book we printed an additional 2,000 English copies in FY2008. We received two grants in the amount of \$3,000 and a private donation of \$1,000. These funds will be distributed and used in the FY2009 budget cycle for the printing of the 2008 edition.

Commission members track legislation and state agency activities that impact women and families. The overall effect of this program is to improve the lives of women and children in Idaho. Education is the key component in assisting women to better provide for themselves and their families. The IWC continues to network with agencies that assist women and families transition from welfare to self-sufficiency. The Commission seeks to provide any needed information to the Legislature on issues that would impact women and families.

Our website usage is continuing to increase. We have placed a new link on our website, a list of businesses that have agreed to mentor new and existing businesses. These businesses sign a release form allowing us to post their information. Mentee's are able to pick a business owner from the list as a mentor and contact them directly.

Email is becoming the preferred method of communication. The director uses email to communicate and refer individuals contacting us. Our resource and events calendar have received compliments from many people and organizations. Our mentoring program for women in business is proving to be a useful tool for women starting businesses. We are happy to speak to organizations about our agency and encourage business owners to become mentors. We will continue to provide updated and useful information to women and families in Idaho through our website.

## ***Part II – Performance Measures***

<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>
1. Increase the number of contacts made, community activities, and volunteer hours given by commissioners	1,913	1,758	2,148	2,450	2,600
2. Increase the number of booklets printed and distributed in English and Spanish.	6,000	0 (not published)	17,000 Eng 7,000 Sp	Completed the distribution of booklets	Publish and print 17,000 English booklets
3. Increase the number of referral sources, calendared events listed, and updates to our website.	15	20	65	100 sources and 20 monthly calendared events	115 sources and 25 monthly calendared events
4. Increase the number of phone, email and correspondence contacts made. Increase the distribution of IWC brochures.	20,265	21,305	5,680 personal contacts/ 43,000 website	5,715 personal contacts/ 43,500 website	5,900 personal contacts/ 44,000 website
5. Increase the contacts with elected officials locally, statewide, and nationally.	43	49	70	75	80
6. Establish a mentoring program.	New	New	Program began June 2007	11 Mentors in program	Increase the Mentors to 25
7. Partner with state agencies and non-profits to eliminate duplication of services and provide meaningful assistance to families.	New	New	New	35 networking opportunities/ participated in 5 conferences	Increase networking opportunities to 38 and participate in 6 conferences

### **Performance Measure Explanatory Note:**

We are constantly looking for ways to improve our outreach to women and families. We will be working with the Department of Health and Welfare and local hospitals to co-host health seminars relating to women's health

issues. We are working with the Commission on Aging to find ways to work together to help senior women.

We continue to improve our website and partnerships with organizations and agencies. We feel good about our past years performance. We hope to continue the same progress in the future.

**For More Information Contact**

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